

Message Text

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SUBJECT: ISRAELI CABINET MEETING

BEGIN SUMMARY: POLITICAL TOPICS DISCUSSED AT THE NOVEMBER 16 CABINET MEETING INCLUDED SAUNDERS' HIRC TESTIMONY, ISRAEL'S AID REQUEST AND LATEST SOVIET PROPOSAL FOR RECONVENING GENEVA CONFERENCE. FOLLOWING ARE RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM OFFICIAL PRESS COMMUNIQUE. END SUMMARY

1. BEGIN TEXT: THE PRIME MINISTER ANALYZED THE TESTIMONY (WHICH SAUNDERS GAVE BEFORE THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE) IN THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSION ALL THE MINISTERS EXPRESSED GRAVE CRITICISM AS REGARDS THE TESTIMONY. THE MINISTERS STRESSED THAT THE TESTIMONY WAS VITIATED BY MANY MISTAKES AND DISTORTIONS--WHICH COULD NOT BE IGNORED--FROM THE FACTUAL AND POLITICAL POINTS OF VIEW.

IN HIS CONCLUDING REMARKS, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS UNIFIED ON ITS CRITICAL STAND VIS-A-VIS SAUNDERS' TESTIMONY. THE PREMIER STATED THAT ISRAEL'S DETAILED OBJECTIONS AND RESERVATIONS WOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

2. IN REVIEWING THE CURRENT DISCUSSION IN THE PLENUM OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REP-

SENTATIVES ON THE SUBJECT OF AID TO ISRAEL, THE PRIME MINISTER DEALT WITH THE REPORTS THAT THERE ARE FACTORS IN THE ADMINISTRATION WHO ARE APPEALING AGAINST THE PRESIDENT'S REQUEST ON THIS SUBJECT. AT THE SAME TIME, HE NOTED THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE DR. KISSINGER IS WORKING RESOLUTEDLY FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF THE REQUIRED APPROVAL FOR THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST ON THE SUBJECT OF AID TO ISRAEL, IN ALL ITS CALUSES.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER REPORTED TO THE CABINET ON THE MESSAGE OF THE USSR AMBASSADOR TO THE AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE, AS REGARDS CONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE AND AS REGARDS INVITING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PLO TO TAKE PART IN THAT CONFERENCE. THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAD SO INFORMED THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL AND HAD SOUGHT ITS REACTION. THE PRIME MINISTER REPLIED TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE THAT ISRAEL WAS READY FOR THE RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IN ITS ORIGINAL COMPOSITION OF PARTICIPANTS--FOLLOWING THE RENEWAL OF THE UNDOF MANDATE BY SYRIA--AT ANY TIME. IN REPLY, WE AGAIN STRESSED, THE PREMIER STATED, THAT ISRAEL WILL CONDUCT NO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PLO, AND WE ARE OPPOSED TO ANY PROPOSAL TO INVITE THAT ORGANIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. WE MUST ACT ACCORDING TO THE CONCLUSION ACCEPTED AT THE TIME, BY WHICH ANY INVITATION OF AN ADDITIONAL FACTOR TO THE CONFERENCE REQUIRES PRIOR AGREEMENT FROM ALL THE SIDES PARTNER TO THE CONVENING OF THE CONFERENCE. END TEXT
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